

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 /089 W

-----111349 121916Z /11/50

P 121127Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8378

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 11760

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MARCOS, MRS. IMELDA) SCUL, PEPR, UR, RP

SUBJECT: EFFUSIVE PRESS TREATMENT OF MRS. MARCOS IN MOSCOW

REF: MANILA 11618

1. PHILIPPINE PRESS COVERAGE OF MRS. MARCOS' VISIT TO MOSCOW JUNE 29-JULY 8 WAS TYPICALLY EFFUSIVE. ALL MAJOR PAPERS CARRIED IDENTICAL FLATTERING STORIES WRITTEN BY A NATIONAL MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTER (NMPC) STAFFER ACCOMPANYING HER, PLUS OCCASIONAL WESTERN WIRE SERVICE STORIES AND PHOTOS. PRESS COVERAGE SEEMED DESIGNED TO GIVE GENERAL IMPRESSION, PERHAPS FOR WASHINGTON EARS, THAT SHE RECEIVED VERY SPECIAL TREATMENT, THAT HIGH-LEVEL SOIET OFFICIALS SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME WITH HER DISCUS- SING UNSPECIFIED IMPORTANT MATTERS OF STATE, AND THAT SHE IS CAPABLE AND SUCCESSFUL STAND-IN FOR HER HUSBAND.

EXAMPLES:

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- ON HER VISIT TO THE COSMONAUT COMPLEX, NMPC NOTED "VERY FEW VISITORS ARE GIVEN THE PRIVELEGE OF VISITING STAR CITY, NOT EVEN HEADS OF STATE."

- ON HER JULY 4 MEETING WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN, REUTER STORY QUOTES TASS THAT SHE "DISCUSSED CULTURAL TIES BE-

TWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WITH KOSYGIN, AS WELL AS POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION IN OTHER FIELDS." NMPC SAYS THEY DISCUSSED "THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF PHILIPPINE-SOVIET RELATIONS IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION."

- NMPC QUOTES SOVIET DEPUTY CULTURE MINISTER POPOV THAT "IT WAS A MOST IMPRESSIVE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN TWO VERY SERIOUS POLITICIANS." NMPC ALSO QUOTES CULTURE MINISTER DEMICHEV, AT A DINNER FOR MRS. MARCOS JULY 5, THAT IT WAS A "VERY IMPORTANT MEETING." DEMICHEV CONTINUED THAT "COMRADE KOSYGIN ASKED ME TO TELL YOU THAT ALL THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES YOU RAISED AT THE MEETING ARE NOW BEING DEALT WITH EXPEDITIOUSLY. ALL OUR COMRADES IN THE POLITBURO AND IN THE GOVERNMENT CONGRATULATE YOU AND WISH YOU GOOD LUCK AND SUCCESS IN ALL YOU DO."

- AFTER SIGNING THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT JULY 7, ACCORDING TO NMPC, "GROMYKO SAID PRESIDENT LEONID BREZHNEV WAS OUT OF TOWN BUT ASKED HIM TO CONVEY HIS BEST REGARDS AND RESPECTS TO PRESIDENT MARCOS AND TO THE FIRST LADY." GROMYKO IS ALSO QUOTED RECALLING IN GREAT DETAIL HER TWO PREVIOUS VISITS TO MOSCOW IN 1972 AND 1976.

- JULY 12 "DAILY EXPRESS" CARRIES A BRIEF UPI REPORT FROM LONDON THAT MRS. MARCOS "PAID A HALF-HOUR CALL ON

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PRIME MINISTER JAMES CALLAGHAN AT HIS NO. 10 DOWNING ST. OFFICE MONDAY." MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA11760
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780287-0673
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780769/aaaacgkl.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b4460477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MANILA 11618
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2036531
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EFFUSIVE PRESS TREATMENT OF MRS. MARCOS IN MOSCOW
TAGS: OVIP, SCUL, PEPR, SOPN, UR, RP, (MARCOS, IMELDA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b4460477-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014